

Message Text

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ORIGIN CU-04

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BONN

UNCLAS STATE 114229

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SCUL

SUBJECT: EDUCATIONAL EQUIVALENCY STUDY

REF: BONN 8331, STRAUS-BASKIN TELECON 5/17

1. FOLLOWING IS DRAFT OF REPLY LETTER TO THIERFELDER.
YOUR VIEWS ON THIS DRAFT ARE REQUESTED BY RETURN TELE-
GRAM SO THAT LETTER MAY BE DISPATCHED. IF YOU BELIEVE IT
APPROPRIATE YOU MAY DISCUSS DRAFT WITH THIERFELDER TO AS-
SURE THAT IT MEETS HIS NEEDS.

2. TEXT: DEAR MR. AMBASSADOR: I AM IN RECEIPT OF YOUR
LETTER OF APRIL 7 IN WHICH YOU, AS CHAIRMAN OF THE GERMAN
DELEGATION IN THE EQUIVALENCY TALKS, TRANSMITTED TO ME CER-
TAIN CONSIDERATIONS ABOUT THE WORK IN WHICH WE HAVE BEEN
ENGAGED. I REGRET THAT I HAVE BEEN SO LONG IN REPLYING,
BUT THE RECENT GERMAN-AMERICAN CULTURAL TALKS HAVE TAKEN A
CONSIDERABLE AMOUNT OF MY TIME.

I CONCUR FULLY WITH YOUR REPORT ON THE STATUS OF THE DE-
SCRIPTION OF THE TWO EDUCATIONAL SYSTEMS. AFTER FURTHER
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DELIBERATION WE BELIEVE IT WOULD BE PREFERABLE TO PUBLISH
EACH PORTION SEPARATELY SO THAT THEY WOULD NOT NEED TO WAIT
FOR THE COMPLETION OF THE OTHER TEXT. REGARDING THE

"GLOSSARTIKEL" I HAVE ASKED DR. BASKIN TO CONTACT
DR. ROCHE DIRECTLY SO THAT WE MAY COMPLETE ANY NECESSARY
WORK AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

WITH REGARD TO THE RECOMMENDATIONS ON WHICH WE WORKED SO DILIGENTLY DURING THE LAST MEETING IN BONN, I WAS PLEASED TO HAVE A SUMMARY OF YOUR CONSIDERATIONS. I HAVE DISCUSSED THEM WITH MY COLLEAGUES AND WOULD SUGGEST A POSSIBLE COMPROMISE IN SECTION A I 3 WITH REGARD TO THE ADMISSION OF "ABITURIENTEN." I SUGGEST THE FOLLOWING LANGUAGE AND BELIEVE THIS IS AS FAR AS ANYONE HERE CAN GO IN MEETING THE NEEDS OF BOTH EDUCATIONAL SYSTEMS: "HOLDERS OF THE ABITUR SHOULD RECEIVE ONE YEAR'S ACADEMIC CREDIT AND MAY RECEIVE MORE AT THE JUDGMENT OF THE ADMITTING INSTITUTION."

WE HAVE ALSO AGAIN EXAMINED SECTION A II OF THE DRAFT RECOMMENDATIONS. THIS PORTION CONCERNS THE PLACEMENT OF THOSE STUDENTS IN AMERICAN UNIVERSITIES WHO HAVE ALREADY COMPLETED THEIR COURSES OF STUDY AND THE REQUIRED EXAMINATIONS. WE BELIEVE THAT THE DRAFT LANGUAGE FINALLY ARRIVED UPON ACCURATELY REFLECT CURRENT PRACTICES AND EXPERIENCES OF AMERICAN UNIVERSITIES. THEY WILL UNDOUBTEDLY HAVE THE EFFECT OF ACCORDING TO GERMAN STUDENTS THE MAXIMUM POSSIBLE CREDIT AND THE BEST POSSIBLE PLACEMENT. IT WOULD NOT BE POSSIBLE FOR US TO CHANGE THIS SECTION FROM ITS CURRENT WORDING.

IF THE DOCUMENT THUS ARRIVED AT IS ACCEPTABLE TO YOU AND YOUR COLLEAGUES, WE WILL USE THE LANGUAGE OF THAT DRAFT AS OUR RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE NATIONAL COUNCIL ON THE EVALUATION OF FOREIGN CREDENTIALS, WHICH WILL MEET IN UNCLASSIFIED

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THE EARLY SUMMER AND URGE APPROVAL. IF IT IS GIVEN, WE WOULD INCLUDE THE RECOMMENDATIONS WITH THE PUBLICATION OF THE DESCRIPTION OF THE GERMAN EDUCATIONAL SYSTEM.

I AM ENCOURAGED BY YOUR LETTER AND BELIEVE WE ARE WELL ON OUR WAY TO A COMPLETE UNDERSTANDING. I HOPE THAT I SHALL HEAR AGAIN FROM YOU SHORTLY.

WITH BEST PERSONAL REGARDS, I REMAIN, SINCERELY YOURS,
RICHARD STRAUS CHRISTOPHER

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